

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 OES-04 AID-05 PA-02 PRS-01 USIE-00

ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 RSC-01 FEA-01 AEC-07

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-06 FPC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /142 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7174

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS USUN 4804

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, ECOSOC, UNEP

SUBJ: 29TH UNGA -- SECOND COMMITTEE -- ITEM 12 -- ECOSOC
REPORT (ENVIRONMENT) -- UPPER VOLTAN RESOLUTION --
A/C.2/L1370

REF: (A) USUN 4769; (B) NAIROBI 9288; (C) STATE 241579;
(D) STATE 243307

1. REPRODUCED BELOW IS THIRD VERSION OF UPPER VOLTAN
TEXT ON "DESERTIFICATION" RESOLUTION. THIS RES NOW PRINTED
AS OFFICIAL DOCUMENT A/C.2/L.1370. IN PREVIOUS REPORTS THIS
RESOLUTION REFERENCED AS COMING UNDER ITEM 46 (ENVIRONMENT);
AS PRINTED IT IS SHOWN AS COMING UNDER ITEM 12 (ECOSOC REPORT).

2. YOU WILL NOTE THAT A/C.2/L.1370 DIFFERS IN MANY RESPECTS
FROM LAST VERSION SENT DEPARTMENT.

3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED REFS (C)
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AND (D), INFO PROVIDED REF (B) AND POOLE/KLEIN TELECON

REGARDING ECOSOC RES 1898 (LVII) MISOFF CONSULTED WITH UPPER VOLTAN DEL, INDICATING US OBJECTIONS TO DRAFT RESOLUTION. RESULTS THIS CONSULTATION AS FOLLOWS:

(A) UPPER VOLTAN CONTENDS THAT AIM OF RES IS FOR UN TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT (I) PROBLEM OF RECLAMATION FO DESERT LANDS AND (II) NEED TO CONDUCT RESEARCH INTO CAUSES OF DESERTIFICATION. CONTENTION IS THAT THESE AREAS NOT NOW COVERED IN WORK OF UNEP (E.G. IN ACTIVITIES REPORTED BY NAIROBI IN REF (B), NOR IN ACTIVITIES CONTEMPLATED FY AD HOC INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE CALLED FOR IN ECOSOC RES 1898). HENCE UPPER VOLTAN DEL SEES NO DUPLICATION. MISOFF INDICATED THAT RES WOULD BE IMPROVED IF LANGUAGE PUT IN RES THAT STATED THAT ACTIVITIES CONTEMPLATED BY ECOSOC RES 1898 AND ALREADY IN MOTION BY UNEP NOT INTENDED TO BE DUPLICATED BY PROVISIONS A/C.2/L.1370. UPPER VOLTAN DEL AGREED AND ASKED THAT LANGUAGE BE PROVIDED

(WE HAVE NOT DONE SO YET, BUT WILL; WOULD WELCOME DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTIONS). FURTHER WITH REGARD DUPLICATION, YOU WILL NOTE THAT A/C.2/L.1370 ELIMINATES JOINT SECRETARIAT ASPECT CALLED FOR IN EARLIER VERSIONS.

(B) WITH REGARD 1977 CONFERENCE ON "DESERTIFICATION", UPPER VOLTAN DEL NOT AT ALL AGREEABLE TO ADDING DESERTIFICATION TO AGENDA OF WATER CONFERENCE, SINCE HE SEES THE PROBLEMS ADDRESSED IN RES AS INVOLVING MUCH MORE THAN WATER. NOR WAS UPPER VOLTAN DEL AGREEABLE TO REQUESTING UNEP GC CONSIDER NEED FOR A CONFERENCE. IN THIS REGARD UPPER VOLTAN DEL STATED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED ENTIRE PROPOSAL WITH TOLBERT AND STRONG, NEITHER OF WHOM HAD ANY PROBLEMS WITH IT (THIS CONTRARY TO EARLIER INFO OBTAINED BY MISOFF, BUT UPPER VOLTAN CONSULTATIONS WITH UNEP OFFICIALS CONFIRMED IN FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATIONS -- IT SEEMS TOLBERT AND STRONG HAD NOT KEPT UNEP LIAISON OFFICE INFORMED ON MATTER).

(C) YOU WILL NOTE THAT A/C.2/L.1370 NO LONGER SHOWS ECOSOC AS BEING BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS. THIS NOW REPLACED BY SYG AND COMPETENT BODIES OF THE UN CONCERNED, PARTICULARLY UNEP. IT IS UPPER VOLTAN NOTION THAT UNEP SHOULD BE PREPARATORY BODY AND UPPER VOLTAN DEL WILL SAY SO PUBLICLY WHEN RES INTRODUCED. REASON FOR BEING VAGUE IN RES IS BECAUSE HE HAD PROBLEMS WITH FAO AND OTHER SPECIALIZED AGENCIES IN SPECIFICALLY NAMING UNEP IN RES.

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FURTHERMORE, HE SEES CONFERENCE AS TAKING PLACE IN NAIROBI, ALTHOUGH HE DOES NOT PLAN TO SAY THIS SPECIFICALLY WHEN RES INTRODUCED, SINCE HE DOES NOT WANT DEBATE TO WANDER INTO SITE MATTERS.

4. A/C.2/L1370 APPEARS TO BE IMPROVEMENT OVER EARLIER VERSION. THESE IMPROVEMENTS PLUS EXPLANATIONS PROVIDED PARA 3 MIGHT ALTER DEPARTMENT'S EARLIER INSTRUCTIONS.

PLEASE ADVISE. ALSO WOULD APPRECIATE LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS
REQUESTED PARA 3(A).

QTE: THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING ITS RESOLUTION 3168 (XXVIII) OF 17 DECEMBER
1973 AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1826
(LV) OF 10 AUGUST 1973 WHICH NOTED THE NEED FOR NEW ACTION TO
INTENSIFY INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION ENABLING ALL COUNTRIES
AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO BENEFIT
FROM THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MODERN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR THE ACCELERATION OF THEIR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS,

RECALLING FURTHER ITW RESOLUTION 3202 (X-VI) IN SECTION I,
PARAGRAPH 2 (C) OF WHICH IT RECOMMENDED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY URGENTLY TAKE CONCRETE MEASURES TO STEM THE
SPREAD OF DESERTS AND TO ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AFFECTED
BY THE PHENOMENON TO ENSURE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF THE AREAS AFFECTED,

NOTING THE RELEVANT DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WHICH, INTER ALIA,
CALLED FOR THE NEED TO UNDERTAKE IN-DEPTH STUDIES ON THE
EXTENT OF THE DROUGHT IN AFRICA AND DRAW UP CORRESPONDING
ACTION PROGRAMMES,

NOTING FURTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION
1878 (LVII) WHICH REQUESTED ALL THE ORGANIZATIONS OF
THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM CONCERNED TO PURSUE THEIR
ACTIVITIES AND EFFORTS TOWARDS A BROAD, SYSTEM-WIDE
ATTACK ON THE DROUGHT PROBLEM,

EMPHASIZING THE NECESSITY TO ENSURE THAT ALL AVAILABLE
KNOWLEDGE IN THIS AREA IS FULLY UTILIZED, IN PARTICULAR,
THE EXPERIENCE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF TECHNICAL CO-
OPERATION AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, THE UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME,
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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION,
WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

FULLY AWARE OF THE NEED FOR FURTHER RESEARCH TO CLARIFY A
NUMBER OF FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR THE SOLUTION OF WHICH THE
REQUISITE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE IS NOT YET AVAILABLE,

RECOGNIZING THE URGENT NEED TO PREPARE A WORLD
INTEGRATED PROGRAMME OF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AND APPLICATION
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO SOLVE THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF
DESERTIFICATION IN ALL ITS RAMIFICATIONS AND RECLAMATION
OF LAND LOST TO DESERTIFICATION,

CONVINCED THAT WORK IN THIS FIELD SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT
AT THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS THROUGH STUDIES
AND MEETINGS AT THE APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL LEVELS,

CONVINCED FURTHER THAT AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION WOULD PROVIDE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AN OPPORTUNITY TO LAUNCH A BROAD PLAN OF ACTION WITH A VIEW TO RESOLVING THE PROBLEM OF DESERTIFICATION,

1. DECIDES TO CONVENE IN 1977 AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS;

2. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE COMPETENT BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONCERNED, PARTICULARLY THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME, TO ESTABLISH CO-ORDINATING MACHINERY TO ASSIST TECHNICALLY IN:

(A) THE PREPARATION OF A WORLD MAP OF AREAS AFFECTED AND AREAS LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY THE PROCESS OF DESERTIFICATION;

(B) THE ASSESSMENT OF ALL AVAILABLE DATA AND INFORMATION ON DESERTIFICATION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES ON THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS OF THE COUNTRIES AFFECTED, THROUGH THE ENLISTING OF ALL THE EXPERTISE AVAILABLE FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF MEMBER STATES, INCLUDING ONGOING AND PLANNED RESEARCH, STUDIES AND ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM;

(C) THE PREPARATION OF AN EFFECTIVE, COMPREHENSIVE AND CO-ORDINATED ACTION PROGRAMME AGAINST DESERTIFICATION, INCLUDING THE BUILDING UP OF INDIGENOUS AND AUTONOMOUS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CAPACITY IN THE AREAS CONCERNED;

3. REQUESTS THE UNITED NATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AND UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE

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FOR UNDERTAKING THE COLLECTION OF DATA AND INFORMATION, ANALYSES AND STUDIES ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM OF DESERTIFICATION AND SPONSOR, IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS, FOLLOW-UP TECHNICAL MEETINGS AT THE REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL LEVELS PREPARATORY TO THE CONFERENCE;

4. INVITES ALL THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM CONCERNED, PARTICULARLY THOSE LISTED IN PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH 5 ABOVE, TO TAKE ALL APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO ASSIST IN THE PREPARATION OF THE CONFERENCE;

5. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SUBMIT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTY-FIRST SESSION, THROUGH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SIXTIETH SESSION, A REPORT ON THE CONVENING OF THE CONFERENCE. UNQTE.

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